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THE
NATIONAL
INDUSTRIAL
TRANSPORTATION
LEAGUE



August 14, 2007

Mr. Vernon A. Williams, Esq.
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Ex Parte No. 670,
Establishment of Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Council

Dear Secretary Williams:

On behalf of The National Industrial Transportation League, I write to support the nomination of Joseph Hopf, President of PPL EnergyPlus, LLC, to the Advisory Committee. Mr. Hopf's experience and interest and PPL's lengthy involvement in rail energy regulatory issues make Mr. Hopf an ideal candidate to be one of the RETAC electric utility representatives.

Mr. Hopf has more than 25 years experience in the electricity industry having worked for PSI Energy in Indiana, Cinergy, Ameren and now PPL EnergyPlus.

In addition to his experience in electricity generation from coal-fired, rail-served generating stations, Mr. Hopf has experience in power marketing, having developed Goldman Sachs' 24-hour energy trading operation. His current responsibilities at PPL EnergyPlus include marketing power generated at PPL generating facilities across the U.S. The success of PPL's marketing efforts depends on reliable and reasonably priced rail transportation of coal to U.S. generating stations owned or operated by PPL. In 2006, those generating stations burned more than 9 million tons of coal delivered by rail. PPL owns more than 1,500 coal cars.

As this letter shows, the Board and the public interest would be exceptionally well served by the selection of PPL EnergyPlus President C. Joseph Hopf as a RETAC member. Thank you for considering this nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Ficker
President & CEO